WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A cleaning medium for a magnetic recording apparatus comprising a nonmagnetic support having provided thereon a lower coating layer mainly containing a nonmagnetic inorganic powder and a binder, and a cleaning layer containing at least a ferromagnetic inorganic powder and a binder provided on the lower coating layer, wherein the thickness of the cleaning layer is from 0.05 to 1.0 μm, the thickness of the lower coating layer is from 0.2 to 5.0 μm, the thickness of the support is from 2.0 to 10 μm, and the thickness in total of the cleaning medium (cleaning tape) is from 4.0 to 15 μm.

2. The cleaning medium for a magnetic recording apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the binder in the lower coating layer comprises a polyurethane resin which is a reaction product containing polyol and organic diisocyanate as the main starting materials, and the polyurethane resin contains, as the polyol components, from 15 to 40 wt% of a short chain diol component having a cyclic structure, from 10 to 50 wt% of a long chain polyether polyol component, and a polar group-containing long chain polyol component having a molecular weight of from 500 to 5,000.

3. The cleaning medium for a magnetic recording apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the surface of the cleaning layer has from 5 to 80 protrusions having a height of from 35 to 100 nm per 900 μm^2, and the cleaning layer contains fatty acid amide, fatty acid and fatty acid ester.

4. The cleaning medium for a magnetic recording apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the polar group-containing long chain polyol component in the polyurethane resin contains polar groups in an amount of from $1x10^{-5}$ eq/g to $2x10^{-4}$ eq/g based on the polyurethane resin.

5. The cleaning medium for a magnetic recording apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the polar group-containing long chain polyol component contains at least one polar group selected from the group consisting of $-SO_3M$, $-OSO_3M$, $-COOM$, $-PO_3M_2$, $-OPO_3M_2$, $-NR_2$ and $-N^+R_2R'COO^-$ (wherein M represents a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, an ammonium, and R and R' each represents an alkyl group having from 1 to 12 carbon atoms).

6. The cleaning medium for a magnetic recording apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the polyurethane resin has from 3 to 20 OH groups per one molecule.

7. The cleaning medium for a magnetic recording apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein the cleaning layer is formed on the lower coating layer by a wet-on-wet coating method while the lower coating layer is still wet.